

LEISTON-CUM-SIZEWELL TOWN COUNCIL

**Annual Report
2006/07**

June 2007

INTRODUCTION

**by Councillor Ann Nunn
Chairman of Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council**

I feel very honoured and privileged to have been your Chairman for the last year. During this time I have received support and friendship at every meeting and event that I have been invited to.

I have been to Bury St Edmunds on a number of occasions. Just this month I had the honour to represent Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council at the America 400 celebrations.

Nearer to home, I have been surprised and delighted to have been invited to so many celebrations and special events of our local organisations.

These include the Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving at Leiston Airfield, the presentation ceremony at the Air Cadets when Cadet Warrant Officer Erik Clarke from Leiston was presented with the Dacre sword, Leiston in Bloom, the launch party for the new CATS bus, the shut-down of Sizewell A, the 120th anniversary of the Royal British Legion Band and the opening of the Long Shop Museum for the 2007 season. The Clerk has a list of all the places that I have visited on your behalf.

I would now like to take you through just some of the achievements and issues that we, as a Council have been involved in over the past year.

Following the decision of Suffolk Coastal District Council to close the Dinsdale Road toilets, we signed a three-year lease to take over the operation of these toilets to enable them to remain open for the benefit of our residents and the many visitors to that part of the town.

A footpath to Highbury Cottages is on our wish list and despite the project being a very low priority for Suffolk County Council, we intend to keep it on our agenda.

In May 2006, the Council engaged Anthony Williams, a cinema consultant, to look at various aspects of the Film Theatre. He reported that the cinema was well run, but did make a few recommendations for improvements, the main one being that we should consider the replacement of the analogue sound system. This has been causing concern for some time as it is no longer fit for purpose. This is an expensive item and members thought long and hard before deciding to make the commitment to replace this with a Dolby Digital sound system. Councillors realised that if we did not invest in new technology we would be left behind.

During last summer, Council became aware that Nuclear Installations Inspectorate (NII) considered that the number of residents in some sectors around the Sizewell power stations were well over the recommended numbers. As a result Council requested and received presentations from Mr Mike Robbins of the NII and Mr Mike Topliss, Emergency Planning Officer, Suffolk Coastal District Council. Following the

LEISTON-CUM-SIZEWELL TOWN COUNCIL

discussion of the content of these presentations, Council agreed that, when making its recommendations on relevant planning applications, a requirement should be added for SCDC to consult with the NII. The NII have, however, recently drawn back from their previous position but members are still extremely concerned that any increase in population should not jeopardise the evacuation plans.

The Town Council will be watching this very closely in the future.

The Household Waste and Recycling Centre in Lovers Lane continues to be a concern from the road safety point of view. A site meeting was held with Suffolk County Council Waste Management and it was decided that a further meeting to include the Highways Department was required.

This Council fully supports the enlargement of the site and will continue to lobby for a speed limit and/or a speed camera.

We were pleased with the outcome of the discussions concerning the position of the sub-station for the Greater Gabbard Offshore Wind-farm. We now need to work towards a satisfactory outcome of the discussions concerning the proposed route of the underground cables between the sub-station and the Sizewell A site.

Sizewell A nuclear power station ceased the generation of electricity on 31 December 2006 after 40 years of operation. The Council are keen to see the decommissioning completed as soon as possible and, in line with the outcome of the Sizewell A and B Site Stakeholder Group public consultation, the site returned to nature. We will be watching very carefully that no radioactive waste is brought in from other sites for storage.

At the April Council meeting it was agreed that adapted toilet facilities to meet the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act should be provided at both the Community Centre and the Film Theatre.

New play equipment is to be provided at the Victory Road Recreation Ground and has now been ordered. This is being provided in partnership with Suffolk Coastal District Council,

The project is unfortunately taking longer than we anticipated.

The provision of a new healthy living centre on the High Street car park is being progressed by the Leiston and District Community Partnership. The PCT have been in turmoil recently but it is now hoped that with the help of SCDC things may begin to happen.

I would like to congratulate John Rayner, our Town Clerk, on obtaining his Certificate in Local Council Administration. This is an essential step towards Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council becoming a quality council and I am hopeful that this can be achieved by October of this year.

Ann Nunn

THE COUNCIL

Meetings of the Council are held on the first Tuesday of each month except August. They are held in the Community Centre in King Georges Avenue and begin at 7.30pm. Before formal proceedings begin the meeting is addressed by the County and

LEISTON-CUM-SIZEWELL TOWN COUNCIL

District Councillors who represent Leiston and also a representative of Suffolk Constabulary. Members of the public are very welcome throughout and, during the pre-meeting, are encouraged to ask questions of their elected representatives and the police or to just make their personal views known as they wish.

PLANNING

The Planning Committee consists of all Councillors and only meets when time constraints preclude planning applications being considered at a scheduled Council meeting. Members of the public are, again, very welcome and time is always set aside for residents to address members on the applications being considered. Immediate neighbours to the application sites are written to and invited to view the plans in the Clerks office as convenient to them and to pass on their concerns there or at the meeting.

ATTENDANCE

Number of meetings - 14

Number of meetings attended

Councillor D. E. Bailey	10
Councillor B. A. Barnes	12
Councillor C. D. C. Blowers	6
Councillor A.M. Cooper	7
Councillor J. L. Geater	10
Councillor Mrs S. M. Geater	8
Councillor C.S. Ginger	14
Councillor J. I. Girling	11
Councillor Mr. T.J. Hawkins	9
Councillor T.E. Hodgson	12
Councillor W.H. Howard	9
Councillor F.R. Huxley	13
Councillor Mrs D. Y. May	9
Councillor A. J Nunn	5
Councillor Mrs A.V. Nunn	14

FINANCE

spending 2006/2007	income 2006/2007	net spending 2006/2007	ACTIVITY	spending 2007/2008	income 2007/2008	net spending 2007/2008
£3,150.00	£1,650.00	£1,500.00	Allotments	£3,650.00	£1,650.00	£2,000.00
£12,450.00	£4,500.00	£7,950.00	Community Centre	£11,500.00	£4,000.00	£7,500.00
£127,350.00	£94,250.00	£33,100.00	Film Theatre	£132,100.00	£98,250.00	£33,850.00
£66,750.00	£3,850.00	£62,900.00	Establishment	£72,900.00	£3,850.00	£69,050.00
£13,000.00	£0.00	£13,000.00	Recreation Grounds	£8,500.00	£0.00	£8,500.00
£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	Dinsdale Rd W C	£8,000.00	£0.00	£8,000.00
£5,000.00	£0.00	£5,000.00	Grants	£5,000.00	£0.00	£5,000.00
£12,900.00	£0.00	£12,900.00	Other projects	£19,500.00	£0.00	£19,500.00
£240,600.00	£104,250.00	£136,350.00	Total	£261,150.00	£107,750.00	£153,400.00

The major projects undertaken in 2006/2007 were new Recreation Ground Fencing, the final Skatepark payment, enhancement of the allotment entrance and underwriting of the Setting the Stage project in the Cinema. The projected spending for 2007/08

LEISTON-CUM-SIZEWELL TOWN COUNCIL

includes a new sound system at the cinema, new play equipment for Victory Road Recreation Ground and new disabled facilities at the Community Centre and Film Theatre.

Organisations supported by the Council were;

Volunteer Centre	£150
Disability Advice Service	£50
Long Shop Museum	£1000
Citizens Advice Bureau	£1600
Leiston Old Folks Outing	£150
CYDS	£750
History Recorder	£250
Community Responders	£300
Family Carers	£50
Winged Fellowship Trust	£50
MIND	£100
Leiston Swimming Club	£100
Victim Support	£100
Headway	£50

YOUR COUNCILLORS

Cllr David Bailey, 8 Garrett Crescent	831032
Cllr Brian Barnes, 51 Grimsey Road	831990
Cllr Clive Blowers, 2 Common Farm Cottages	832415
Cllr Bing Boast, 10 Buller Road	830391
Cllr Tony Cooper, 28 King George's Avenue	830181
Cllr John Geater, 28 Westward Ho	830761
Cllr Susan Geater, 19 Haylings Grove	
Cllr Colin Ginger, 20 Heath View	832400
Cllr Trevor Hawkins, 78 King George's Avenue	830234
Cllr Terry Hodgson, 27 King George's Avenue	830917
Cllr Bill Howard, 52 Waterloo Avenue	831455
Cllr Frank Huxley, 56 Waterloo Avenue	830415
Cllr Jacqui Morrissey, 35 Ashfield Drive	635592
Cllr Andrew Nunn, 1 Andrew Close	830462
Cllr Ann Nunn, 1 Andrew Close	830462

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr John Geater, 28 Westward Ho	830761
Cllr Trevor Hawkins, 78 King George's Ave	830234
Cllr Andrew Nunn, 1 Andrew Close	830462

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Ron Ward, 84 Lee Road, Aldeburgh	452952
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LEISTON-CUM-SIZEWELL TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN CLERK

Mr John Rayner,
Council Offices,
Main Street,
Leiston
IP16 4ER
Tel: 01728 830388

Email: Leistontownclerk@aol.com

Administrative Assistant: Mrs Carole Jefferies
Town Handyman: Mr Mark Edmunds

Office open: Monday & Tuesday 09.00 – 12.30 14.00 – 16.45
Thursday & Friday 09.00 – 12.30
Closed Wednesdays

Council minutes and other information are available at www.leiston.com

LEISTON FILM THEATRE

Manager: Mr Wayne Burns
Assistant Manager Mr Vivian Fox

Programme information available from the Box Office 01728 830549
Or on www.leistonfilmtheatre.com

COMMUNITY CENTRE

Caretaker: Mrs Pauline Clarke

Available for hire at £10 an hour (non charity) or £5 an hour for charities.
Bookings through the Town Clerk.